

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Bulgaria

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1. Eleven peasants from Zhilentsi (42 16N - 22 38E), recently fled to the Rilska Mountains (sic) because of the harsh terroristic methods employed by the officials of that village. The eleven men are believed to have been, or to have become members, of a clandestine organization known as the Bojna Grupe (Battle Group) which has a fairly large resistance unit in the Rilska Mountains and maintains liaison with townspeople in the surrounding area. Following the flight of these peasants, Zhilentsi authorities arrested 30 residents of the village for questioning.
2. A branch of an unidentified clandestine organization, whose objective is the overthrow of the Communist regime and whose net extends throughout the country, was located until recently in the village of Gyueshevo (42 14N - 22 28E), near the Yugoslav border. Most members of the Gyueshevo unit were denounced and arrested in April 1951. The sentences of the following are known: Elavko Zeev, leader of the group, was sentenced to death by hanging; Jelenka Madzova, Kiril Madzov, Kire Kirov, Stojko Jaserov, and Bojan Jaserov were sentenced to 10 to 30 years imprisonment.
3. In either April or May 1951, a town forum was held in Gyueshevo during which official criticism was made of the Yugoslav "Fascist Government". Vasil Pastradzinski, Ivan Pucpinski and Kiril Grozdanov, three Bulgarian citizens, made comments to the effect that they thought the Yugoslav Government was Communist and not Fascist. Immediately after the meeting, the three men were arrested, and tried for speaking against the Bulgarian regime and subsequently sentenced to 15 years imprisonment each.
4. Political arrests continue to be made in the villages of Prekolnitsa, Skakavets (42 11N - 23 31E) and Rementsi, in the Kyustendil district. To date, approximately 90 villagers and workers have been arrested.
5. Bulgarian farmers continue to sabotage the government's produce collection program. It is estimated that the regime has not been able to collect more than 70 percent of what was expected from the farmer, who continues to withhold as much as he can without being detected. Measures adopted by the regime to instill terror have failed to impress the farmers.

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25X1A

- 2 -

6. Mine workers are also active in organized sabotage on a large scale, especially in the most extensive coal mine located in Pernik. The mine provides coal for most of Bulgaria's industries which, because of the sabotage are running behind production schedules. In another large coal mine near Dimitrovgrad a similar situation exists.
7. Widespread sabotage in Bulgaria has obliged the Soviet authorities to come out in the open in an effort to control the situation. Increasing numbers of Soviet "instructors and experts" have appeared in Bulgaria, adding to the existing hatred for Soviet officials because of their intervention in Bulgarian affairs.

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